



## ATTENTION

Probate cases on this calendar are currently under review by the probate examiners. Review of some probate cases may not be completed and therefore have not been posted.

If your probate case has not been posted please check back again later.

Thank you for your patience.

Atty

Forry, Craig (of Mission Hills, for Petitioners Virginia Chenier, Leslie Bartimore, Lori Johnson and Lynn Feathareston

Atty

Standard, Donna M. (for John Welsh, Trustee)

Amended Petition to 1) Compel Accounting; 2) Suspend and Remove John M. Welsh as Trustee of the Bartimore Family Trust; 3) Compel Distribution; 4) Conversion; 5) Constructive Trust; 6) Breach of Fiduciary Duty; and 7) Return of Property to Trust [Prob. C. 859, 15642, 17000, 17200; Civ. C. 2224 & 3294]

		<b>VIRGINIA CHENIER, LESLIE BARTIMOR, LORI JOHNSON and LYNN FEATHERSTON,</b> beneficiaries, are petitioners.	<b>NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:</b>  <b>Continued from 8/28/2013.</b> Minute Order states Mr. Forry requests a continuance to consider objections. Parties stipulate in open court that Mr. Forry may deposit the checks without any further prejudice to the Petitioner's claims.
		Petitioners states Grantors and original Co-Trustees, <b>Charlotte V. Bartimore</b> and <b>Leonard D. Bartimore</b> , executed the Trust on 10/28/2008. Grantor Charlotte V. Bartimore died on 2/1/2011 and Grantor Leonard D. Bartimore died on 9/5/2009.	
Cont. from 080113, 082813		Charlotte V. Bartimore signed the First Amended and Restated Trust Agreement on 8/31/2010.	
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		
✓	Verified	<b>John M. Welsh</b> is the current Trustee of the Trust.	
	Inventory		
	PTC	Pursuant to Paragraph 3.3.2(b), page 3 of the Trust, the trust was to divide the trust into two equal shares. 50% of the estate was to be allocated to the issue of Charlotte and the remaining 50% was to be allocated to the issue of Leonard.	
	Not.Cred.		
✓	Notice of Hrg	Each of the Petitioners are the issue of Settlor Charlotte V. Bartimore, and they are each entitled to an equal share with John Welsh.	
✓	Aff.Mail		
	Aff.Pub.	On 5/26/2011 Petitioner Lynn Featherston sent a letter requesting that John M. Welsh provide and accounting as required by Probate Code §16063.	
	Sp.Ntc.		
	Pers.Serv.	<b>Please see additional page</b>	
	Conf. Screen		
	Letters	<b>Reviewed by: KT</b>	
	Duties/Supp		
✓	Objections	<b>Reviewed on: 9/27/2013</b>	
	Video Receipt	<b>Updates:</b>	
	CI Report	<b>Recommendation:</b>	
	9202	<b>File 8 – Bartimore</b>	
✓	Order		
	Aff. Posting		
	Status Rpt		
	UCCJEA		
	Citation		
	FTB Notice		

On 2/5/2013, Petitioner's attorney sent a letter to John Welsh requesting he provide an accounting as required by Probate Code §16063.

On 2/20/2013, Petitioner's attorney sent an additional letter to John Welsh requesting that he provide an accounting.

After representing that he would provide an accounting, John Welsh has failed and refused to provide an accounting, and no accounting has ever been provided to Petitioners.

Petitioners believe that pursuant to Probate Code §15642 John Welsh's refusal to provide an accounting to Petitioners is a breach of the Trust. Furthermore, John Welsh's conduct demonstrates recalcitrance with regards to dealing with Petitioners, and renders John Welsh unfit to act as Trustee.

John Welsh while wrongfully acting as Trustee, and controlling the Trust, failed to comply with the terms of the Trust to distribute equal shares of the Trust estate to Petitioners.

Petitioners allege that John Welsh has failed to distribute to them their rightful shares of the Trust estate. Such failure constitutes a wrongful act made in bad faith to deprive the proper beneficiaries of the property in the Trust estate. As such John Welsh should be compelled to provide an accounting of the Trust estate at the time of Charlotte's death, and should be compelled to pay double damages as a consequence of such a wrongful appropriation of the Trust estate.

A Constructive Trust should be imposed on the real property of John Welsh located at 46910 Dunlap Road, Miramonte, California 93641 under Civil Code §2224. Petitioners allege that John Welsh has used a portion of the Trust estate to maintain, repair, improve or otherwise benefit the Miramonte property sufficient to support a constructive trust being imposed on the Miramonte property for the benefit of Petitioners.

A Constructive Trust should also be imposed on Bank of America Account no. 23416-31370 and Wells Fargo Bank Account no. 10110221047174 that have been used by John Welsh in the handling of the Trust Estate. Petitioners believe John Welsh has used those accounts for his personal benefit sufficient to support a constructive trust being imposed on them for the benefit of Petitioners.

Previous paragraphs allege wrongful acts which are a breach of the Trust, a mistake, accident, or outright fraud. Because John Welsh has deprived Petitioners of their rightful distributions and property, John Welsh should be deemed to be holding said property as Constructive Trustee for Petitioners.

John Walsh's acts of depriving Petitioners of their rightful property and withholding all authorized distributions constitutes the tort of conversion.

John Welsh must pay double damages for the wrongful appropriation of Trust assets in clear violation of the Trust.

Pursuant to Civil Code §3294, an award of punitive damages against John Welsh should be awarded to Petitioners as a result of John Welsh's acts of fraud, oppression, or malice arising out of his breach of fiduciary duty as acting as Trustee and as a result of the fraudulent concealment and conversion of Trust assets.

**Please see additional page**

**Wherefore, Petitioners pray for an Order of this Court:**

1. Compelling John Welsh to render an account for the Trustee since the date of Charlotte V. Bartimore's death on 2/1/2011 through the present;
2. Removing John Welsh as successor Trustee of the Trust, or in the alternative, suspending his powers as Trustee and delivering the Trust estate to the Successor Trustee Dale R. Welsh, pending the filing of said account with this Court;
3. Compelling the distribution of Petitioners' share of the Trust estate as allocated to them under the Trust;
4. Surcharging John Welsh at the legal rate for improper payments made out of the Trust assets and for the lost value of the Trust as a consequence of their failure to make the Trust productive for beneficiaries;
5. Imposing a Constructive Trust over the wrongfully held assets by John Welsh, including but not limited to, the real property located at 46910 Dunlap Road, Miramonte, California 93641, in an amount determined at trial;
6. For double damages pursuant to Probate Code §859 in an amount to be determined at trial;
7. For punitive damages against John Welsh, in an amount determined at trial; and
8. For such other and further Orders and relief as the Court deems just and proper.

**Successor Trustee's Opposition to Petitioner's Amended Petition to Compel Accounting, Suspend and Remove John M. Welsh as Trustee and Answer to Allegations of Constructive Trust filed by Trustee, John Welsh on 8/26/2013.** Trustee John Welsh states filed concurrently is an accounting from February 1, 2011, the date of death of Settlor, Charlotte V. Bartimore, through July 31, 2013.

John Welsh, Successor Trustee, Respondent objects to removal of him as Trustee, as his actions of a late accounting do not rise to the level of a breach of fiduciary duty. Respondent states he provided an initial accounting to the beneficiaries on or about March 15, 2011. The next accounting would have been due after February 1, 2012. John Welsh states he has had several personal crisis situations occur during this period and was unable to provide the accounting due to circumstances out of his control. Both of his eldest children were hospitalized on different occasions with severe injuries and he also has a child with developmental disabilities who resides with him on a full time basis.

John Welsh states he made some distributions, however, due to the uncertainty surrounding the "Mariner Note", which is a not an deed of trust held against the property, payable to the Trust, which is undervalued at this time, John Welsh, Trustee has not terminated the Trust and made full distribution. John Welsh contends that funds may be necessary should it become necessary to foreclose on the note. Should foreclosure become necessary, to would require John Welsh, Trustee, to assume a large first trust deed, which is ahead of the note payable to the Trust and would require the Trust to assume those payments until the property could be sold. Presently the property is valued at \$725,000.00. The First Trust Deed Note is in the amount of \$820,000.00

**Please see additional page**

**Successor Trustee's Opposition to Petitioner's Amended Petition to Compel Accounting, Suspend and Remove John M. Welsh as Trustee and Answer to Allegations of Constructive Trust filed by Trustee, John Welsh on 8/26/2013**

**(Cont.):** John Welsh, Trustee, objects to Petitioner's request to remove him, based on the terms of the Trust, which states any successor Trustee "must be a trust company or bank qualified to do a trust business." No such designation has occurred. If the Court should consider Petitioner's request, which John Welsh, Trustee, does not consent, then the Court only has the power to appoint a trust company or bank qualified to do a trust business. The Court has no authority pursuant to the terms of the trust, to appoint the Alternate Successor Trustee, Dale M. Welsh.

John Welsh, Trustee, contends it is within his discretion to make distributions to administer the terms of the Trust. Because the issue regarding the "Mariner Note", further distribution should not be made at the present time until it is determined the course of action necessary regarding the note held by the Trust. The borrower has only recently finalized his transaction with the First Deed holder and the Successor Trustee was waiting for an appraisal of the property before entering into any final negotiations.

**Wherefore, John M. Welsh, Successor Trustee prays:**

1. That Petitioner's request to remove Successor Trustee, John Welsh, be denied;
2. That Petitioner take nothing by way of this Amended Petition;
3. For costs of suit and any other relief as may be just and appropriate.

DOD: 7/13/10		<p><b>ROBERT ACUNA, JR. and DESIREE ACUNA</b>, were appointed as Co-Administrators without bond on 02/18/11 and Letters were issued on 05/26/11.</p> <p>Inventory and Appraisal was due on 9/26/11.</p> <p>On 3/22/12 the Court signed an order granting attorney Mara Erlach's Motion to be Relieved as Counsel.</p> <p>At the hearing on 3/22/12 the Court set an Order to Show Cause hearing and Ordered both Robert Acuna, Jr. and Desiree Acuna to be present.</p> <p>Order to Show Cause and Minute Order were mailed to both Robert Acuna, Jr. and Desiree Acuna on 3/23/12.</p> <p><b>Minute order from 4/26/12</b> indicates there were no appearances. The court removed Robert Acuna Jr., and Desiree Acuna. The court appointed the Public Administrator as administrator without bond.</p> <p>The Public Administrator's Letters were issued on 6/27/12.</p> <p><b>Status Report filed on 2/28/13 states</b> based on their investigations, the Public Administrator and his Attorney question whether administration of this estate should continue. According to the original petition for probate, there was \$10,000 in personal property and \$100,000 in real property. The only beneficiaries are the former administrators. The only creditors are the State of California Franchise Tax Board (\$2,020.41) and the Fresno County Tax Collector (\$263.99). If the former administrator paid those two creditors, the Public Administrator believes the estate could be closed without approving the acts of the former administrator.</p>	<p><b>NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:</b></p> <p><b>As of 9/27/13 the following issues remain:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Need <b>Inventory &amp; Appraisal</b> <u>or</u> current written status report pursuant to Local Rule 7.5, which states: In all matters set for status hearing, verified status reports must be filed no later than 10 days before the hearing. Status Reports must comply with the applicable code requirements. Notice of the status hearing, together with a copy of the Status Report shall be served on all necessary parties.</li> </ol>
<p>Cont. from 082712, 112612, 010713, 030713, 052313,</p>			
Aff.Sub.Wit.			
Verified			
Inventory			
PTC			
Not.Cred.			
Notice of Hrg			
Aff.Mail			
Aff.Pub.			
Sp.Ntc.			
Pers.Serv.			
Conf. Screen			
Letters			
Duties/Supp			
Objections			
Video Receipt			
CI Report			
9202			
Order			
Aff. Posting			
Status Rpt			
UCCJEA			
Citation			
FTB Notice			
		<p><b>Reviewed by: KT</b></p> <p><b>Reviewed on: 9/27/13</b></p> <p><b>Updates:</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p><b>File 13 - Acuna</b></p>	

Status Hearing Re: Filing of the Inventory and Appraisal

DOD: 7/13/10		<p><b>ROBERT ACUNA, JR. and DESIREE ACUNA</b>, were appointed as Co-Administrators without bond on 02/18/11 and Letters were issued on 05/26/11.</p> <p>Inventory and Appraisal was due on 9/26/11.</p> <p>On 3/22/12 the Court signed an order granting attorney Mara Erlach's Motion to be Relieved as Counsel.</p> <p>At the hearing on 3/22/12 the Court set an Order to Show Cause hearing and Ordered both Robert Acuna, Jr. and Desiree Acuna to be present.</p> <p>Order to Show Cause and Minute Order were mailed to both Robert Acuna, Jr. and Desiree Acuna on 3/23/12.</p> <p><b>Minute order from 4/26/12</b> indicates there were no appearances. The court removed Robert Acuna Jr., and Desiree Acuna. The court appointed the Public Administrator as administrator without bond.</p> <p>The Public Administrator's Letters were issued on 6/27/12.</p> <p><b>Status Report filed on 2/28/13</b> states based on their investigations, the Public Administrator and his Attorney question whether administration of this estate should continue. According to the original petition for probate, there was 10,000 in personal property and \$100,000 in real property. The only beneficiaries are the former administrators. The only creditors are the State of California Franchise Tax Board (\$2,020.41) and the Fresno County Tax Collector (\$263.99). If the former administrator paid those two creditors, the Public Administrator believes the estate could be closed without approving the acts of the former administrator.</p>	<p><b>NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:</b></p> <p><b>As of 9/27/13 the following issues remain:</b></p> <p>2. Need <b>Inventory &amp; Appraisal</b> or current written status report pursuant to Local Rule 7.5, which states: In all matters set for status hearing, verified status reports must be filed no later than 10 days before the hearing. Status Reports must comply with the applicable code requirements. Notice of the status hearing, together with a copy of the Status Report shall be served on all necessary parties.</p> <p><b>Note to Judge:</b> Per Minute Order for an Order to Show Cause Re: Failure to Appear the Court imposed additional sanctions in the amount of \$500.00 against Robert Acuna, Jr. and Desiree Acuna. The Court noted that each will now owe a total of \$1,000.00 for both cases.</p>
Cont. from 082712, 112612, 010713, 030713, 052313, 081513			
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